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MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1903.

Objects of Congratulation.

Discovered and Noted Between While the "Line Is Busy."

We congratulate our esteemed contemporary, the "Evening Star," upon the attitude it has taken with reference to the telephone service furnished to subscribers in this city.

We also congratulate the public upon the fact that the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company is not a tenant of the "Star."

Persistent War Rumors.

Japan and Russia Keep the Correspondents Busy Guessing.

The whole civilized world is today watching Russia and Japan, and the correspondents are busy telegraphing rumors, opinions, comparisons of the strength of the two nations, the attitude of other nations, prophecies as to the outcome of the struggle, if it should take place. Among so much that is conflicting, it is impossible for even the well-read man to come to any definite conclusion, beyond the belief, on broad grounds, that a gigantic struggle cannot be delayed. War is at best a fearful thing to contemplate, with its vast harvest of suffering and devastation, and a struggle between Japan and Russia could not be other than a bloody and stubborn conflict. One's apprehension, however, increases, when he contemplates the possibility that other first class powers may be drawn into the broil, and the entire East swept with the besom of destruction.

It would no doubt be to the interest of Russia if she could fight the battle alone, and on this point a Brussels paper has already foreshadowed that Russia will be likely to ask France to withhold her aid, hoping thus to keep England out of the struggle. On the other hand, there are many disquieting rumors afloat of martial activity among the Chinese, and the possibility of an alliance between the two great representatives of the Mongolian races does not seem out of the reckoning. China has every cause to hate and fear the Muscovite, while the beating lately administered to her by Japan would doubtless be looked upon as a family matter, and would not leave behind a heritage of bitter memories.

Russia's policy of steady and relentless expansion is so well understood that the necessity of a combination against her must force itself upon her neighbors sooner or later. In such a giant struggle as this, the dogged fighting power of Russia and her ability to resist almost single handed the rest of Europe, can hardly be overestimated. It is true that the Finns, the Poles, and the Jews hate her, but the mass of Russian people from Vladivostok to Alexandrovna, on the German frontier, are united in their loyalty to the White Czar and faith in their religion. The ignorant peasants and the savage tribes of Cossacks, Bourliaks, and the wild horsemen of the steppes and the plains make up the rank and file of the Czar's army. The student class and those who have sufficient enlightenment to think and to become disaffected, are numerically few, and are not such a power in the country as the noise they make would lead the world to believe.

The Voucher Case Again.

Remarkable Action on the Part of the Grand Jury Alleged.

Though our citizens are in a measure becoming accustomed to surprises in the affairs of our "well-governed District"—this seems a contradiction in terms, but we shall permit it to stand—we cannot help thinking that the school-voucher case, so called, will give rise, in the minds of many taxpayers, to further reflections when attention is drawn to certain features of the case not heretofore touched upon.

The money taken from the school appropriation for the year in which the illegal acts occurred was not for a bill incurred by the Board of Education, but to settle a debt of the former Board of School Trustees which had passed out of existence. To use the current school funds of the Board of Education to settle this

ancient claim was of itself a clear violation of statute law, and those who surreptitiously secured the payment of this bill for photography from the appropriation added this violation of a specific statute to their other infractions of law. These latter, as we know, included a fictitious voucher, known to be such; an illegal agreement with a dealer to receipt for \$600 for which he had rendered no supplies and pass it over to a third party; a false certificate by a school official that goods not received, and which he had specified were not to be delivered, had been duly delivered.

Next there was the delay, in the face of full notice that the statute of limitation was about to run, until it was too late to proceed under United States law making the offense punishable by both fine and imprisonment at hard labor. Then it was committed to the Attorney for the District, and passed into the hands of the grand jury. There it developed that the bill for photographs was for \$526, and the amount obtained by the fictitious voucher was for \$600. The question arose, what became of the \$74. Now the report is that the grand jury allowed a new bill for an even \$600 to be submitted in place of the long standing one for \$526.

Our citizens, it seems to us, have a right to know whether such a transaction has been added to the surprising list of brazen infractions of the law and neglects of prosecution which already distinguish this case.

What's Wrong With Heath?

A Subject for Prayerful Contemplation by the Republican Party.

Evidence has been abundant of late that one Perry Heath, secretary of the Republican National Committee, has lost control of his tongue and possibly of his temper. But the latest statement given out by him is enough to perplex a mind-reader and arouse serious doubts whether he is not a subject for medical inquiry. It is certain that if he goes on much further he will be a fit object for a prayer meeting in the Republican party.

This newspaper man has grasped the idea that in matters of politics it is sometimes as well to have one's ear within reach of prominent public men as to put it to the ground, and his ear has apparently been at the service of Senator Hanna. He now asserts that that same ear was also open to utterances of President McKinley which may be classed as "important, if true." Heath says he heard Mr. McKinley say, just before going to Buffalo:

"I expect to see my friend and associate, Marcus Hanna, the next President of the United States. I believe he will be nominated and elected."

Now, anybody who ever had the remotest acquaintance with William McKinley knows that while a conscientious and kindly man, he was too astute a politician ever to utter even to his nearest and dearest one word which he would not be willing to have called out from a megaphone on the street. The idea that he bequeathed Mr. Hanna to the American people as a dying legacy, that respect to the martyred President requires the party to carry out his last wishes, is so absurd that it would seem as if Mr. Heath must have distrusted his ears if he thought he heard any such remark.

Nobody could ever find out what Mr. McKinley was going to do about an unimportant nomination until he was ready to let the world know about it. At the time when he is said to have made this astounding statement, the next election was three years in the distance, and Mr. McKinley would have been about as likely to predict the candidate of the Republican party in that election as he would to predict the date of the Day of Judgment, or the fashion of next season's straw hats. As a piece of mock-pathos, Mr. Heath's little story is a failure.

But that is not all. Mr. Heath is not content with getting into a hole; he seems to desire to turn the hole upside down and climb out of the other end. He says:

"Hanna does not want the office. That does not mean that he does not want the nomination."

Now, what in the name of Henry James, Mother Eddy, George Meredith, Lewis Carroll, and all the gods of elaborate word puzzles at once, does that mean? Is Mr. Heath of the opinion that Mr. Hanna wants the nomination in order to be whipped by the Democratic party, which is still in a fragmentary condition unsuitable to such operations, or does he mean that Mr. Hanna would like the nomination offered him in order that he may coyly decline the honor? In the latter case, his announcement is premature. The American people do not offer nominations to men who announce beforehand that they will not take them. That is perhaps the rea-

son why no such announcement has as yet come from Mr. Hanna.

Mr. Heath is not requested to explain these statements of his. His explanation might be worse than the original statement. But it would be interesting to have the Republican managers explain what in the world a man who behaves like that is doing in politics.

A Municipal Museum.

It Might Be Filled to Overflowing With Interesting Exhibits.

It is daily becoming more and more apparent that one of the crying needs of the District is a municipal museum. In no other way can the many curiosities of this "well-governed" be preserved for ready reference. The list of surprising and abnormal cases grows so rapidly that the busy citizens do not easily keep track of them. There needs to be a room, a large room, or, better still, a floor, devoted to their preservation and full illustration. The new Municipal Building will afford all needed facilities—for a time at least. When established citizens would be able, by occasional visits, to keep themselves informed, and to teach their children the broad difference which obtains between theory and practice. There should be a loud call for this museum—so loud and prolonged that our Commissioners will hear and provide the necessary rooms in their plan for the new structure.

As an example of what might appear on the walls, ample room should be provided for District accounts that have never been audited. The Treasurer of the United States has just discovered a dozen or so of this class of venerable accounts that have never caught the eye of an auditor or a Commissioner. Some of them are said to be gray with age. They were opened a quarter of a century ago, and, following what seems to be the general rule, were never examined. They probably belong to the class of "never heard of before," which is a large and growing one in our "well-governed." Naturally, Treasurer Roberts thinks it high time that some one is designated to balance these aged evidences of District indebtedness. From this view our taxpayers will not dissent.

But, by all means, let us have the museum! There is already an abundance of interesting material on hand to start it; in fact, enough to comfortably fill it.

There is very little reason for this ennobling of the early riser. Man is like bread, which, whether it rises early or late, will come to loaf sooner or later.

It is now said that the United States is practically at war with Colombia. It can stay practically at war with Colombia for the next fifty years without causing half the bother which resulted from trying to maintain peaceful relations.

Russia has generously offered Japan half of Korea. Wonder what would be said if Korea should offer Japan half of Russia?

The situation between Russia and Japan reminds one of the story of the little boy who, sitting with his little sister on a very short bench, deferentially observed, "I think there would be more room on this bench for me, Mary, if one of us was to get off."

The mayor of Boston has refused a poultry society permission to hold an exhibit of light Brahmas in Faneuil Hall. Would it have made any difference if the chickens had been Plymouth Rock?

The bakers of Callao are on strike. Thus do the blessings of civilization penetrate even to the remote corners of the earth.

They have ants in the Philippines that eat paper; and when General Wood sees the mass of correspondence that has been accumulated in regard to his case he may be inclined to wish there were ants of that kind here.

The worst thing about a war in the Orient is that it may precipitate another crop of those cablegram poems.

King Edward objects to people drinking his health in port, but how about drinking it when half seas over?

To hear some of the moralists inveigh against the evils of a flat as compared with a house, one would think that the chief agent of domestic morality was stairs.

Henry Norman, M. P., is impending, having sailed for New York on the Majestic. His baggage probably includes a trunk full of new photographs and several thousand brief auto-biographies, for distribution among the press of this country.

With Senator Hoar abusing the President's Panama policy, and Clark Howell defending it, it is going to be a difficult thing for the party sheep to know whether they are Democrats or Republicans.

It may not be polite to go where one is not wanted, but men like Helmsman feel that it is hardly safe to go where they are wanted.

The American Baseball League has rescinded the foul-strike rule. If labor unions would abolish the foul strike the whole civilized world would say "amen."

WOOD'S ADMINISTRATION IN MINDANAO ISLAND

Manila Press Defends His Policy as Serving Best Interests of the Moro Province.

Governor General Wood is a successful administrator for several reasons, first of which is due to the fact that true of the island of Cuba, he has so shrewdly he has confidence in his countrymen. He has confidence in his countrymen, who, appreciating this trust, give him the benefit of their best knowledge and experience.

Had Governor General Wood, in entering upon his duties as the chief executive of the island of Cuba, been so shrewd and vain as to believe himself possessed of the combined intelligence and executive skill of an entire nation of people, he would have made a failure. However, he had the wisdom to see that there could be no breath of character in any government where there was no breath of action.

Following the policy in Mindanao which has marked him as one of the most successful administrators in our country's history, he called the business men of Zamboanga together and requested them to form a chamber of commerce as a means of expressing the concrete opinions of the business men of the Moro province.

General Wood said that as the business men resident in Zamboanga had been there for some years, they had doubtless formed opinions concerning the best policy to be pursued in order to insure progress and prosperity; that he desired to have their advice and co-operation in all things looking to the best interests of the whole people.

This may read like a dream, but it is, nevertheless, true.

The second point in favor of Governor General Wood's administration is due to the fact that he is not attempting to work a political "graft" of any kind on the American people. He is here solely to do his duty unobscured by political ambitions which make so many men dishonest and deaf to the voice of conscience.

The Moro province is exceptionally fortunate in having Governor General Wood at its head in the transition period from military to civil government.—The Manila Review of Trade.

INCREASE IN EXPORTS FROM UNITED STATES

Gain Is General Throughout the List According to Bureau of Statistics.

Details of eleven months' commerce in the year 1903 have been made public by the Department of Commerce and Labor through its Bureau of Statistics. They show an increase in practically all of the great groups into which the Bureau of Statistics divides the exports and in all of the groups into which it divides the imports.

Products, as a whole, show an increase of \$4,000,000; products of the forests, \$10,000,000; products of the mines, \$3,000,000; manufactures, \$5,000,000, and miscellaneous articles, \$2,000,000. In the single group, fisheries, is shown a slight decrease of a little more than \$1,000,000.

The figures for the month of November show a marked growth in exports and manufactures, the total for the month being \$34,000,000, against \$30,555,512 in November of last year. Agricultural products also show a marked increase in the month, the figures for November, 1903, being \$114,172,255, against \$82,035,858 in the same month of last year.

The increase in exports of raw cotton, which was valued at \$1,000,000 in the month of November, is unusually high.

KISHENEV JEWS FEAR ANOTHER MASSACRE

Reports of Plot to Institute Slaughter on Russian Christmas Confirmed. Preparations Made for Flight.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—Information from a trustworthy source at Kishenev confirms the statement of the existence of a plot to massacre the Kishenev Jews during the Russian Christmas holidays.

The plot has been hatching for some time. As the delivery of the sentences on the first batch of prisoners tried on capital charges in connection with the massacre had been anticipated at the end of December, the orthodox Christmas (January 7) was fixed upon a fortnight ago as the most fitting time for action.

The correspondent says he has just read a telegram received by a Jewish lady from her husband in Kishenev. It says:

"The situation is alarming. Do not leave for home."

A letter from a prominent Jew in Kishenev says he and others will leave the city before the Russian Christmas. Jewish public men at Kishenev recently waited on the governor and presented the Jewish view of the dangerous situation created by Russian dissatisfaction with the sentences pronounced on Christians.

TOO MUCH CHRISTMAS KILLED THIS BOY

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23.—Christmas joys proved too much for nine-year-old Andrea Loscalzo. He lies dead at the home of his mother, Mrs. Theresa Loscalzo, killed by overindulgence in holiday dainties. On Christmas Eve the boy, according to his brother, ate a pound and a half of candy, a great deal of cake, fruit, nuts and pie in addition to large meals at breakfast, dinner and supper. Late on Thursday night, after he had retired, the boy was seized with violent cramps, and all day Christmas he remained ill. He died later.

TO SURVEY CHANNEL

Next year the War Department will begin an investigation and survey of the channel from deep water in Hampton Roads to the Norfolk navy yard, for the purpose of widening and strengthening and increasing the depth to thirty-five feet.

BIGGEST WAR FLEET IN PACIFIC PORTS

Arrival of Evans' Squadron of Battleships and Cruisers at Honolulu Great Event for Islanders.

HONOLULU, Dec. 20 (via San Francisco, Dec. 23).—The arrival on Wednesday of the largest fleet of war vessels ever seen in any port on the Pacific Ocean was a noteworthy event. The fleet comprised three battleships and four cruisers of the United States Asiatic squadron, which crossed the ocean from Yokohama. The battleship Kentucky was in the lead, followed by the Wisconsin and the Oregon and the cruisers New Orleans, Raleigh, Albany, and Cincinnati. Coaling began as soon as the Kentucky and the Wisconsin reached wharf. It was kept up at the rate of 150 tons an hour, and the coaling of the entire fleet was completed at noon today.

The entire fleet reached here after the long voyage without accident, and with no repairs necessary. As soon as any one of the vessels had coaled she might have started at once on the return voyage. This exploit is regarded as one of the most important, that any modern fleet has accomplished in time of peace.

With the arrival of the fleet Honolulu boasted of three rear admirals and a major general of the army. The admirals were Admiral Evans, in command of the fleet; Admiral Cooper, in charge of the North Pacific squadron, and Admiral Schuch, in command of the naval station at Honolulu. The major general was MacArthur, returning from China to San Francisco. Many entertainments have been planned before the departure of the fleet on December 23.

NEW CARNEGIE PLANT FOR ARMOR PLATE

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 23.—The Carnegie Steel Company expects to start its new armor plate plant next week. It cost about \$2,000,000, and will double the capacity of that department at Homestead. The largest forging press and heading furnaces in the world have been built for it. A new machine shop has also been built.

AFRICAN TRIBES REBEL AGAINST GERMAN RULE

Great Namaqualand in Revolt—Report That Whole Garrison Has Been Wiped Out.

CAPE TOWN, Dec. 23.—A general insurrection has broken out among the Bondelswarts tribes in Great Namaqualand, German Southwest Africa. The insurgents have collected in the Kara Mountains.

The Kara Mountains are in the southern part of Great Namaqualand, near the British frontier. The Hottentot tribes in German Southwest Africa are regarded as dangerous fighters, their love of hunting having made them good marksmen. They are all armed with modern weapons, and adopt Boer tactics, as the Germans discovered in the Witboer war, which lasted from 1882 to 1895.

Even when the present outbreak was confined to a small number of natives it was realized that the work of repression would be long and difficult, for the district in which the Hottentots are in rebellion is wild and mountainous.

Little definite news has been made public concerning the insurrection. Even the date of the massacre of the German garrison at Warmbad is uncertain. The first report, which reached Cape Town via Kenhardt, was that the entire garrison had been wiped out, but the only news obtainable from German sources was that one officer and one sergeant had been killed and one private soldier wounded. Later information, received mostly from British sources, made it clear that the rising was a more serious matter than the German authorities were inclined to admit.

At one time it seemed likely that the rising would spread to British territory, but apparently the natives have been careful not to kill British subjects. At Warmbad, it is said, none of the British settlers were killed or wounded, but all were made captives.

The president of the German Colonial Association placed the blame for the rising on the policy adopted by the government. For some years, he declares, the natives have been favored to such an extent that the German settlers are regarded by the Hottentots as Europeans of a low order. The farmers have been unable to prevent continual thefts of their cattle because they are forbidden to arm their employees.

POPE SENDS MESSAGE TO AMERICAN NEGROES

Holy Father Pronounces a Special Benediction Upon Catholics of That Race in the United States.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—A letter from the Rev. Dr. John E. Burke, director of the negro Catholic missions of New York, was read by Father Thomas M. O'Keefe, at the services yesterday, in which the doctor told of his latest interview with Pope Pius X and of the holy father's special benediction and good wishes for the American negroes.

Dr. Burke was presented to the Pope by Monsignor Kennedy, of the American College. The Pontiff invited them to be seated and asked the missionary to relate in detail the conditions and needs of the colored people. At the close the Pope said:

"Carry our love and special apostolic benediction to the colored people of America."

Dr. Burke related how, during the interview, the great bells of St. Peter's rang out the "Angelus." The holy father, rising, said: "Let us pray." All those present knelt and gave the responses, while the Pope recited the Angelus.

An Unusual Individual.

"He is positively uncanny; he is so unlike the average man."

"Why, what's the matter with him?"

"I don't know. I told him today that I was suffering from a bad cold and he didn't suggest a single remedy for it."—Cincinnati Times-Star.

ONE CORNCRUP NETS \$4,154 TO THREE BOYS

World's Fair Distinction, in Addition to the Pecuniary Profits, for Energetic Missionaries.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 23.—By cultivating a patch of corn all last summer three Missouri boys earned not only the handsome sum of \$4,154.52, but the distinction of having the fruit of their industry selected to be one of the features of Missouri's exhibit at the World's Fair. The commission will place their photographs in a place of honor in the Missouri Building.

The boys are John, George and Joseph Christian, aged eighteen, sixteen and twelve years, sons of C. A. Christian, of Tarkio, Atchison county. The work was all done between May 1 and November 1, and the boys are now in school.

The boys accepted an offer from Davis Rankin, who is the most extensive cattle feeder in the world. Mr. Rankin has 30,000 acres of land, and each year he raises corn on fifteen to twenty thousand acres.

When the Christian boys applied for land on which to raise corn Mr. Rankin promptly turned over 540 acres and agreed to pay the boys 12 cents for every bushel of corn they raised.

Hitching six mules to a lister, the boys went to work. This machine plows, harrows and seeds at one operation. They worked like Trojans and soon the 540 acres were planted. Then the boys had a breathing spell. When the corn began to grow another task was theirs. Three times the growing corn had to be cultivated. Again was a requisition made on the Missouri mule and six were attached to each of the three two-row cultivators. The weeds were kept down and the soil loosened.

The grain grew and ripened, and when November rolled around the harvest was begun. When the corn was gathered into Mr. Rankin's great corn bins it was found that the boys had grown 34,621 bushels of grain. At 12 cents a bushel this netted \$4,154.52, and Mr. Rankin gave them a check for that amount.

COMBATS OLD THEORY OF HEAVENLY BODIES

Earth Dwellers Can See No Stars Requiring More Than 1,000 Years to Transmit Light.

MADISON, Wis., Dec. 23.—Prof. George C. Comstock, director of Washington Observatory and professor of astronomy at the University of Wisconsin, has caused a furore among scientists in his department by declaring that, according to exhaustive experiments made by him for a period of years, the ideas held by astronomers about the telescopic range of vision and photography are enormously exaggerated—perhaps 2,000 times.

Heretofore it has been held that astronomers could see through their telescopes stars the light from which took 2,000 years to reach the earth. Prof. Comstock declares that it is, in his opinion, impossible to see a star more than the best telescope in existence the light of which star takes more than 1,000 years to reach the earth.

"Modern investigation," Prof. Comstock said in an address before a gathering of scientists and students, "proves that the statement of the astronomer who said a century or so ago that with his telescope he could see stars from which the light took 2,000 years to reach the earth was enormously exaggerated. Modern astronomers claim to be able to see stars from which the transmission of light takes 20,000 to 30,000 years, but I believe that we cannot see further than the stars whose light is transmitted in 1,000 years, nor do I believe we will be able to get beyond that distance."

RAILROAD HELD UP BY WOULD-BE WRECKER

Telegraph Operator Terrorized and Signals in Every Direction Disorganized.

CUMBERLAND, Md., Dec. 23.—A. E. Grimes is in jail at Kingwood, W. Va., charged with "holding up" the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Grimes attacked the telegraph office at Anderson, it is charged, holding up the operator, J. T. Cruise, with two ugly guns, and breaking down the telegraph office, throwing the signals and blowing the road both ways. Cruise was terrorized by Grimes, who, knowing something about telegraphy, it is alleged, tried to manipulate the instrument to the great danger of trains and traffic on the road.

Orders were finally pushed through from Cumberland to Tunnelton to arrest Grimes. Special Constable J. G. Herndon was dispatched on a special engine to Anderson, and in a few moments Grimes was in the clutches of the law.

But this man had for two hours, the trainmen say, delayed traffic and so mixed up orders and telegrams that both trainmen and operators had been obliged to make a move for fear that a collision or some other disaster would result.

Only one reason is given for this queer hold up. The officers declare that Grimes was merely "sore" on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company for some supposed injury it had done him, and that he sought this method to get even.

BEAR HUNT NEAR PITTSBURGH.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 23.—George Graff, Nelson Kerr, and E. W. Myers killed a large bear at Castle Shannon, six miles from this city. The animal had been a pest at Castle Shannon for a year, but a month ago escaped and has been living in the thickets and young pines of Pittsburgh suburbans, frequently terrorizing women and children. The hunt for the bear lasted several hours. When the bear was brought to bay he showed fight, but was soon dispatched.

COURTS AND CAPITALS OF THE OLD WORLD

Vienna's Burgomaster Starts Crusade Against Physicians—Says One Old Woman Is Worth Ten Doctors.

By the MARQUISE DE FONTENAY.

Vienna's burgomaster, Dr. von Lueger, the intimate friend and crony, as well as political associate of Prince Alois Liechtenstein, and who enjoys great favor with the old aristocracy of Austria, and who is the cause of his intense animosity toward the Jews, has now fallen foul of the doctors.

He has publicly declared that in his estimation "an old woman is worth ten doctors," and so effective has been his denunciation of the medical profession in the Austrian capital that for about a fortnight there was something in the nature of a strike there on the part of sick people. That is to say, there was for the space of two weeks a most remarkable decline on the part of the poorer classes in seeking medical attendance, and at the Central Hospital alone there was a falling off of 800 patients. In the case of the Jews, however, it is said that since then the number of their patients has been far larger even than before.

No Respect for Learning.

In one of his public tirades the burgomaster calmly informed the municipality that "until science could invent and manufacture a blade of grass which a cow would eat" he had "no respect for learning;" he went on to advise the people of Vienna "not to be fooled any longer by doctors, who sought to exist on the credulity of their more ignorant fellow-beings, and to remember that shortly a second aqueduct would supply the city with pure water, which, after all, nature's own medicine for all ills."

Met with all this the burgomaster is not only a power in the land as burgomaster at Vienna, commanding a large majority in the municipal assembly, but is also one of the most influential leaders in national politics. He is covered with orders and decorations from almost every sovereign in Europe, and his words are listened to with respect and his recommendations accepted. It is said that the Vienna doctors are now hoping for the burgomaster to fall ill, in such a manner as to stand in need of their services.

The Gurney Family.

Lady Troubridge, whose play, "Mrs. Oakleigh," is being treated with so much derision by the London critics since its production the other day at the New Theatre, in the British metropolis, is a sister of the Countess of Dudley, and, like her, figured for a time as a saleswoman in a Regent Street modiste's establishment, also helping her mother, Mrs. Gurney, in her business. Her successful venture as a milliner after the financial disaster of her first husband, Charles Gurney.

The Gurneys, one of whom has just been assigned to duty at the British embassy in Washington, belong to one of those untitled county families of England which constitute the real British aristocracy. The founder of the family was Hugh Gurney, one of the Norman barons who accompanied William the Conqueror to England in 1066. The family was enriched by Thomas Gurney, who murdered King Edward II in such an appalling manner by thrusting hot irons into his body.

Separated From Husband.

Lady Troubridge's mother, Mrs. Charles Gurney, separated from her husband after the scandal which resulted in his retirement from the old Gurney Bank, and which necessitated the sacrifice of all his possessions, and after the marriage of her two daughters, one to the Earl of Dudley and the other to Sir Thomas Troubridge, had been brought about by Lady Gurney, who had been the Duchess of Bedford, respectively, she secured a divorce in this country from her first husband, and now the wife of Lord Jackson, of the Scots Guards.

When Lady Gurney married Sir Thomas Troubridge, she had been assumed the privilege until then regarded as somewhat parental, of presenting her with a coronet and a large quantity of jewelry by way of a wedding gift.

Sir Thomas is the fourth baronet of his line. The first was a well-known admiral, who was the right-hand man and flag captain of Nelson at the battle of the Nile, and whose daughter married a duke.

Sir Thomas is an admiral, and the third—that is to say, the father of Sir Thomas—was a general, and was killed at Inkerman, and sat composedly on a gun carriage there to have it hewed off by the primitive method of the procedure of those days. Sir Thomas and Lady Troubridge make their home at Gray Friars, a pretty place near Ascot.

To Preserve Old Castle of Milan.

Every American tourist who has ever visited Milan will be glad to learn that active steps are now being taken for the repair and preservation of the famous old castle of Milan, overlooking the Piazza d'Armi, and which a short time ago was on account of its tottering condition on the point of being consigned to demolition.

Storza Dukes of Milan, who reigned there in the fifteenth century, on the ruins of the still older castle of the Visconti, which had been almost entirely razed by the populace in 1448. It was regarded in the middle ages as the strongest and most inviolable fortress in Italy, and served as a model, in part, at any rate, for the Kremlin at Moscow.

It has had many different masters of diverse nationalities since the days of the Storzas, and has been the scene of the last of these being at the close of the eighteenth century.

Possibly because its fortifications have always been identified with tyranny, and because it has ever been in the eyes of the people the outward and visible sign of the domination, it has been neglected by the Italians of the present day, and it is doubtful whether any of the Milanese now living save the soldiers quartered within the precincts of the castle have ever crossed its threshold.

However, now the municipality of Milan and the government have decided to the importance of preserving this interesting monument, and work has been commenced to remove the huts and shanties which have been built against its walls, restoring the drawbridges and the battlements, and in the word take the necessary steps for its preservation.

WOULD PURCHASE HOUSES FOR AMERICAN DIPLOMATS